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Deltona gearing up for First Christmas Parade

Dec. 5, 2011—The City of Deltona is proud to host the City's first Christmas Parade for residents, Dec. 17, along Providence Boulevard. Marching bands, performers, floats, fire trucks, a life-size gingerbread house, Santa and all of his assistants will travel Providence Boulevard from Fort Smith Boulevard to City Hall (2345 Providence Blvd.) beginning at 6 p.m. Spreading holiday cheer in a "Winter Wonderland" across Deltona. Amy Kaufeldt and John Brown of Fox35 Orlando will emcee the parade from a central location near the intersection of Elkcam and Providence Boulevards.

Historically, the Deltona Civic Association hosted an annual Deltona Day Parade on Deltona Boulevard to celebrate the City's incorporation. Last year, the Association asked if the City would consider taking over the parade, and change it into more of a parade for the holidays. City staff decided to make the first City-sponsored parade a night-time Christmas parade.

The City has been collecting "Letters to Santa" and Santa's Elves have chosen several authors of those letters to ride on the float with Mr. and Mrs. Claus. First, second and third place awards are up for grabs to the "Best Float" and for "Best Performance." One lucky entrant will receive the "Best Overall" award. Judges will be located in the same area as the emcee near the intersection of Elkcam and Providence. Also, residents should look forward to seeing the Grand Marshal of the First Deltona Christmas Parade.

At 3:30 p.m., Providence Boulevard, from Tivoli Drive to Fort Smith Boulevard, will be closed to motorist to allow for parade staging. During the parade staging time, motorists will not be permitted access to businesses from Providence Boulevard between Tivoli and Fort Smith via Providence. Providence Boulevard along the parade route from Fort Smith Boulevard to Eustace Avenue will be closed at approximately 5:30 p.m. and will remain closed for the duration of the parade which will be between 2-3 hours. Once the parade route is closed, businesses along with residential streets that only have an outlet to Providence will be inaccessible.

There will be a free Christmas Concert, an "Old Fashioned Christmas," featuring performances by Adrian Sutton, Felecity, Kyrsten Paige, Karegan Wodz, Amanda Melito and HAYGD, immediately following the parade in the Courtyard at City Hall, 2345 Providence Blvd. The concert is produced by Nick Pizza Ministries. Santa will be at the concert for photos. Bring your own camera or have a member of the Walgreens photo department take them. Walgreens photos will be available through Walgreens the next day.